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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/566,016	02/21/2007	Heinrich Diekmeyer	056982/63	9985

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EXAMINER	
WILLIAMS, THOMAS J	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3657	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
12/06/2010	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

klpatent@kramerlevin.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/566,016	DIEKMEYER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thomas J. Williams	3657	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *29 September 2010*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1 and 3-9* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,3,5 and 7-9* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *4 and 6* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Acknowledgment is made in the receipt of the amendment filed September 29, 2010.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DE 2837806 to Goerge et al. in view of US 6,089,831 to Bruehmann et al.

Re-claims 1, 3 and 9, Goerge et al. teach a compressed air system, comprising: a compressed air supply 4 includes a compressor and compressed air consumer part includes a plurality of compressed air load circuits 1, 9 and 10, multi-valve 2 is an electrically actuated valve, each brake circuit 1 contains a compressed air accumulator as well as circuit 9, sensors monitor circuit 9 and the accumulators for any unexpected reductions in pressure (see EPO translation) for controlling valve 2 (so as to isolate any broken circuit), circuit 10 is without a

compressed air accumulator, high pressure circuit 9 is provided with a compressed air accumulator and a normally closed valve 7 (as it is operated by the driver in case of emergency or as necessary). Multi-circle valve or multiway protection valve 2 is said to be closed when one of the air consumer circuits experience an unexpected drop in pressure (see paragraph 9 of the translation, wherein it states that valve 2 will interrupt the supply line to the circuit in question, thus implying the line must be normally open). However, Goerge et al. fail to teach either valve 2 or valve 7 as being an electrically actuatable valve.

Bruehmann et al. teach in figure 3 electrically actuatable valves 69.1-69.3 and 69.5 placed within a supply lines of a compressed air consumer circuits. The use of electrically actuatable valves allows for remote control as well as control by an electronic control unit of a vehicle brake system, thus the system may react sooner to changing conditions, such as unexpected pressure drops and rapid pressure applications. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have provided the actuatable valves 2 and 7 of Goerge et al. with electrically responsive operation as taught by Bruehmann et al., thus providing the compressed air system with valves having a quicker operation as well remote operation capability. The valves of Bruehmann et al. are solenoid operated valves, and communicate with the controller via a data bus.

Re-claim 5, the pressure within accumulator 9 is higher than the normal pressure of accumulators 1a-1c, note the presence of pressure reducer valve 6.

Re-claim 7, the valves are part of a common compressed air circuit.

Re-claim 8, Goerge et al. fail to teach an air dryer and check valve associated with the compressed air supply line. Bruehmann et al. teach a compressed air supply line having an air

dryer 18 and a check valve 32 arranged in the compressed air supply line. The air dryer reduces condensation within the supply line and compressed air accumulators, and the check valve prevents backflow of compressed air to the air dryer. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have provided the compressed air system of Goerge et al. with both an air dryer and check valve arrangement as taught by Bruehmann et al., thus preventing moist air from entering the compressed air supply lines and prevent the backflow of compressed air in the supply lines from reaching the air dryer.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 4 and 6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

6. The discovery of Goerge et al. warrants a new grounds of rejection. The examiner regrets the delay in prosecution this may cause the applicant.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiries concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas Williams whose telephone number is 571-272-7128. The examiner can normally be reached on Wednesday-Friday from 6:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Siconolfi, can be reached at 571-272-7124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-6584.

TJW

/Thomas J. Williams/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3657

December 1, 2010